In America, Carl worked as a Swedish school-teacher and studied at Augustana, which he attended from 1883 until 1888. During this time, he also studied law. He then became a member of the Augustana College board and was involved in its management. In 1888, he married Alma M. E. Johnson and moved to Nebraska to organize the Nebraska Lutheran Missions in Russia. He left Nebraska in the fall of 1914 to work in Michigan to organize many more societies. He served as the head of the Lutheran Church in Michigan from 1914 to 1919.

Reference Notes

- Registration card for Carl Erik Elving, 1883, MSS241c, Augustana College Office of the Registrar Records
- Marriage record of Carl Erik Elving and Alma M.E Johnson, 02 Nov 1888
- Nebraska Conference Clergy Home Boarder, 1907-1913
- Board of the Lutheran Missionary Society, 1921
- Portrait of Carl Erik Elving

Acknowledgments

We appreciate the help of all these people. This project wouldn’t have been possible without their support:

- Emma Linquist, Special Collections Librarian, Augustana College
- Susan Trow, Head of Library Services, Svensson Swedish Immigration Research Center
- Liz Hamrick, Archivist Librarian, Svensson Swedish Immigration Research Center

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